

REMARKS

This responds to the Advisory Action mailed on August 27, 2007. Claims 1, 13-14 and 26 are amended, claims 27-29 are canceled, and claims 38-74 are added; as a result, claims 1-26 and 30-74 are now pending in this application.

Claims 1-26 and New Claims 30-37

Claims 1-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over French (U.S. 6,263,447) in view of Woolston (U.S. Publication No. 2005/0033655). Applicant has added claims 30-37, which depend from and further define claims 1, 13, 14 and 26. The Office indicated that claim 29 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 13, 14 and 26 to include the limitation of claim 29. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of claims 1-26 under 35 U.S.C. §103 has been overcome. Because claims 30-37 depend from and further define claims 1, 13, 14 and 26, Applicant also submits the new claims 30-37 are patentable over the cited art.

New Claims 38-57

Applicant has canceled claim 27 and added a same or similar limitation therein to new claims 38-57. For example, claim 38 recites “outputting the verification rating to a different user that has registered with the registration process, wherein the outputting is to enable the different user to access the verification rating of the user.”

With regard to claim 27, claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over French et al. in view of Harrington et al. and further in view of Ng (U.S. 6,405,175). Among the differences, claim 27 recites “allowing a second user of the network-based auction facility to access an indicator of verification of the user.” In the Response to Arguments section, the Office indicated that this limitation is disclosed by Ng at col. 14, lines 12-15. Applicant respectfully traverses this assertion. This section of Ng relates to users given “accuracy ratings based on the number of errors that have been detected in their product submissions, or based on feedback comments by other users.” Ng at column 14, lines 12-15.

This section of Ng does not disclose the above cited claim limitation for at least two reasons.

First, the ratings in this section of Ng are for accuracy of input by users into the system (not for verification of the user based on input during registration). Second, this section of Ng does not disclose that the accuracy ratings are disclosed among users.

Because the cited references do not disclose or suggest all the claim limitations of claims 38-57, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 38-57 are patentable over the cited art.

New Claims 58-74

Applicant has canceled claim 28 and added a same or similar limitation therein to new claims 58-74. For example, claim 58 recites “wherein the predetermined threshold is proportionate to at least one of a size of the network-based transaction facility and a type of operation of the network-based transaction facility.”

With regard to claim 28, among the differences, claim 28 recites “wherein the predetermined threshold is proportionate to at least one of a size of the network-based transaction facility and a type of operation of the network-based transaction facility.” In the Response to Arguments section, the Office indicated that French teaches this limitation at column 2, lines 60-61. These cited sections of French relate to the level of authentication being dependent on the size of the purchase – “For example, in the context of electronic commerce, lower risk transactions such as relatively small purchases may not require an extensive authentication process.” French at column 3, lines 1-3. Thus, French’s level of authentication is dependent on the size of the purchase. These cited sections of French do not disclose or suggest that a threshold is proportionate to a size or type of operation of the facility.

Because the cited references do not disclose or suggest all the claim limitations of claims 58-74, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 58-74 are patentable over the cited art.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 371-2103 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

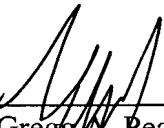
Respectfully submitted,

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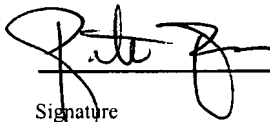
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By 
Gregg A. Peacock
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PETER REBUFFONI

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